

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

The first American sociologists theory, stated that Sociology is the only social science that takes conflict as a major topic, and the only field that throughout its existence has been crucially centered on class, race, and ethnicity by Collins (in Alan, 2011: 3). New fields focuses on race, ethnicity, gender, and sexuality are also concerned with conflict, but the intellectual driving force in most of these fields is a sociological perspective. Here the writer only focuses on gender and especially about discrimination of women. Scafer (1989: 246) argue that discrimination is a process disproves opportunities and same rights to individuals or groups because of prejudice or other a decision judgment.

Discrimination can become on age, religion, health, race, color, creed, national origin and gender, and in this world gender just consist of two kinds it is women and man. Every woman also needs freedom, where they do not wish to get discrimination from men and they want to have the same right as men. Some people think that in Muslim country, spaces for women are very limited, for example are in the Muslim countries such as Arabian, Afghanistan, Irak, Pakistan, Thurkey and etc. In the countries that, for men to have more power toward women and wife or unmarried girl there can be victim. Beatings, murder, humiliation and loss of control are just several discrimination practice

in Muslim countries. There the researcher only focus about the discrimination toward women in Afghanistan. there women are still oppressed until now.

Discrimination against women is still found in Afghanistan though there have been claims of improvements. One of the basic reasons of the survival of such an attitude is the way the females are perceived within Afghan society. They are, in most of the cases, considered a burden by the families. As females do not earn them money the way males can do, most of the poor families want to get rid of them as soon as possible. Marriages prove to be a legal of way of doing the same; they will be receiving money as well in response of their marriages.

Discrimination of women almost has same definition with the patriarchy. Patriarchy is social systems that decide fathers as the head of the family. So the similarity between discrimination of women and patriarchy is the same as men to have more power toward women in regulated all of thing the life or most dominance is man side. Discrimination will influence the development of social, economic, politic, culture, religious, and science technology aspect of human life. In creating a literary work the researcher need positive thinking about experiences, phenomena, and images in the social condition based on time and place. Discrimination toward women just an issue that is used by the researcher to create literary work, Creating literary work can be realized in kind poetry, drama, movie, script, novel, short story and etc. Here, the writer only focuses on the novel to make it. Novel is long narrative or complex narrative in literary prose. Novel can indicate situation in the society about

politics, culture, religious, social, economic and science technology. To create a novel an author needs an effort, inspiration, reality phenomena in the human life to be the material in creating of novel. in here Khaled Hosseini one of famous author in the world, where he often tell about condition society in Afghanistan.

Khaled Hosseini was born in Kabul, Afghanistan on March, 4 1965. He is the oldest child of five children. His father worked as consultant of Afghanistan country and his mother taught Farsi and History in senior high school special for women in Kabul. Kabul is boyhood home of Khaled Hosseini. In the early 1970, Khaled families moved to Teheran, Iran. When his father got a diplomatic mission to be post at Afghan embassy in Iran. They returned home to Kabul in 1973. In 1976 his families moved to Paris, French, where his father was a diplomatic at Afghan embassy. They returned home to Afghanistan in 1980, when Rusia attacked his country. His father called back to return after invasion, but he was decide to developing politic career in America and his enjoyed.

Khaled Hosseini was ended in San Jose, California. They were effort to meet his needs in every time, because they were loss all wealth in Afghanistan and they had to begun from early. His father had worked and they were got all again from it. Khaled graduated in high school on 1984. He was alumnus from Santa Clara University where he had a bachelor's degree in biology in 1988. His attended school of medicine in University of California-San Diego, where he was got a bachelor's degree in medicine on 1993 and he was completed his

residency at Cedars-Sinai Hospital in Los Angeles. On 1996 he was practice as doctor and now he was married with had a son and daughter, namely Haris and Farah. Now, they lived in north California. And finally Hosseini was a practicing internist between 1996 and 2004. Not many the authors got premier worked until booming in the world. But, with the exception of Khaled Hosseini and he was the famous author from Afghanistan-United State of America. And then Hosseini began writing his first novel, *The Kite Runner* it released in March of 2001. In 2003, with the background novel a friendship of two children in Afghanistan when tumult postwar in Afghanistan. *The Kite Runner* was published and belongs to international bestseller, with published for 70 countries. The category of this novel belongs to bestseller novel in along of 2005 and *The Kite Runner* stayed during more of two years in the New York Times Bestseller list. It sells more of 8 million copies in the world and was translates in 42 languages in the world. Blessing of shine worked it and he was being blessed with Humanitarian Award 2006 by UNHCR.

The Second novel *A Thousand Splendid Suns* was released on May 22, 2007. This novel focuses on a trip of two women in Afghanistan in the middle of tumult Afghanistan reign in 1960 until 2003. This novel consists of 384 pages and 4 chapters. Beside that this novel in United State of America got positive utterance from Kirkus, Publisher Weekly, Library Journal, and Booklist. *A Thousand Splendid Suns* novel occupies two positions in Amazon.com as familiar novel that before release schedule. *A Thousand Splendid Suns* was published in 60 countries. The concept for the Khaled

Hosseini foundation was inspired by his trip in Afghanistan, Khaled made in 2007 with the UNHCR. And He lived in northern California. In create this novel Khaled Hosseini was spend 21 weeks on The New York Times Best Seller list for paperback fiction and 49 weeks on The New York Times Best Seller list for hardcover fiction (#1 for 15 of those weeks). And this novel has sold more than 38 million copies internationally.

There are some comments from reader like:

Inspirational, touch of heart... relate in deep about quest and love struggle (Family Circle). Buried emotion, love strong, beauty, prohibition and tolerance without the distance, it all will tell by Khaled Hosseini in A Thousand Splendid Suns (O, the Oprah Magazine). The story that touching about two women in Afghan in the defend life with all strong them (Booklist).

The title in this novel comes from one of the quotes in the poem famous poet from Iran on the seventeen century namely Saib-e Tabrizi and this is “one could not count the moons that shimmer on her roofs. And the thousand splendid suns that hide behind her walls”. This novel tells more about human problem from war conflict and discrimination toward women. This novel takes the setting in Afghanistan between 1964 until 2003 and major character is two women namely Mariam and Laila. The second women come from different background like differ in Age, characteristic, ethnicity, education, and social class but one of event have meet them and make them live with various of mordacity life in the middle war condition that destroy the city where they live.

This novel is divided into four chapters; chapter one focuses on Mariam, chapter two focuses on Laila, chapter three focuses both Mariam and Laila, and

chapter four focuses on Laila. The first part of this novel tells about Mariam, Mariam is illegitimate child of secret liaison between Jalil as the boss and Nana as the servant. Jalil's family chase away Nana and Mariam from their home, and then they live in the small village. Whereas, Jalil lives with three legal wives in Herat, Although Jalil never admitted that Mariam as his child, but Jalil always visits Mariam's home once a week.

When Mariam will celebrate her 15th birthday, she asks her father to watch Pinokio movie in her father theater is located in Herat and Jalil promises to Mariam that his will fulfill his promise to watch pinokio movie. However, Mariam waits for long time but her father doesn't come to pick her up. Because of that, Mariam decides to go to Herat for meet his father by herself. But, when she returns to home, she finds her mother died because her mother does is gallows. After his mother died, her father brings Mariam up to his home. But, Mariam is not happy. Jalil's wives doesn't accept Mariam, because Jalil family consider Mariam as shame. Because of it, they urged Jalil that Jalil must married Mariam with Rasheed. Rasheed is an old widower and shoes businessman from Kabul. This is a tactics of Jalil's wives to clear their husband scandal. And then, they throw Mariam to Kabul, 650 kilometer from Herat.

Finally Mariam got married with Rasheed, In the beginning of their marriage, everything that Mariam did is right, but Rasheed us over protective to Mariam. But, everything changes after Mariam miscarriage. Rasheed becomes melancholy and be hothead and their marriage becomes unhappy. When Mariam makes little mistake, Rasheed always smite, slap, or kick her. At

this time, Laila character appears; she is the girl whose age nine years. She is smart girl who's born from a family who pay attention in education. Laila lives with his father and mother in Kabul, her two brothers died in the war between Mujahidin and Soviet. This tragedy causes her mother crazy. Then Laila gets friend named Tariq, and they are falling in love.

When Laila is fifteen years old, there is a tragedy that separates Laila with her family and also Tariq. Then Rasheed and Mariam bring up Laila. Without seeing Mariam feeling, Rasheed married with Laila and this begin new stage in their life. Early, Mariam as legal wife, she is hates Laila, especially Rasheed is has lower position than Mariam with his had Mariam to be Laila servant. Hostility Mariam and Laila have been change when the last their get coarse treatment from Rasheed. Domestic violence occur coloring in their life family. Mariam and Laila experience pain and they also get oppression form her husband; they also must survive facing the situation in outside which is not benefit to women group.

The researcher has some reasons to do this research because this novel tells about discrimination to women after pass limit in Afghanistan period who leads by Taliban community. The women who finds in outside without her husband they are will whip without pardon. The girl cannot study everywhere school. The writer who life in society wants to know about sociological value in discrimination of women with deep, reading in this novel also helps to get better understanding about the life of women in Afghanistan who experience discrimination. And the writer wants to know about influences of

discrimination in some aspect, such as social aspect, politic, economic, religious, culture, and science technology. Based on the explanation above, the writer decides to do the research entitled **Discrimination of Women in Khaled Hosseini's *A Thousand Splendid Suns* (2007) Novel: A Sociological Approach.**

B. Literature Review

There are some student conducted this study and the writer get find some review from browsing in internet and visit in library Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta.

The first research is reviewed by Baker entitled *A Brutal but Moving Story of Like in Afghanistan* (2007). He stated that *A Thousand Splendid Suns* is an unforgettable portrait of a wounded country and a deeply moving story of family and friendship. And her research focuses on life story Mariam and Laila, Mariam is only fifteen when she is sent to Kabul to marry the troubled and bitter Rasheed, who is thirty years her senior. Nearly two decades later, in a climate of growing unrest, tragedy strikes fifteen-years-old Laila, who must leave her home and join Mariam unhappy household. Laila and Mariam are to find consolation in each other, their friendship to grow as deep as the bond between sister, as long as the ties between mother and daughter. Yet love can move a person to act in unexpected ways, lead them to overcome the most daunting obstacles with a startling heroism. In the end it is love that triumphs over death and destruction.

The second research is reviewed by Laili Agustina (UMS: 2012) in her research entitled *Against Patriarchy In Khaled Hosseini's A Thousand Splendid Suns* (2007) Novel: A Feminist Approach. And the objective of this study in her research is to analyze the novel based on its structural elements and on the feminist analysis. And the major problem of this study in her research is how against patriarchy is reflected in this novel. And on making research the writer of also uses qualitative method and feminist approach, the data source consists of primary data and secondary data source. The method of the data collection is library research and the technique of data analysis is descriptive analysis.

Based review in above the similarity from two review studies the writer is same to analysis this novel "*A Thousand Splendid Suns*". In there are the writer same to analyze the novel based on its structural element. In other it the writer also same of data source consist of primary data and secondary data, and then method of the data collection is library research and the technique of data analysis is descriptive analysis. The difference just of the issue and approach, in there the writer to analysis would like to focus Discrimination of Women in Khaled Hosseini's *A Thousand Splendid Suns* (2007) Novel: A Sociological Approach. In this research paper the writer only focuses on the social condition or reign condition that telling in *A Thousand Splendid Suns*. Because in this novel Khaled Hosseini's as the writer it novel, his not only tell focus between Mariam and Laila life or about woman's but his also tell a lot of about reign condition in Afghanistan society especially on discrimination of women.

C. Problem of the Study

The major problem of this study is “How is the discrimination toward women reflected in Khaled Hosseini’s *A Thousand Splendid Suns*”

D. Limitation of the Study

The research limits the study on discrimination toward women on Khaled Hosseini’s *A Thousand Splendid Suns* Novel.

E. Objective of the Study

The objectives of the study are as follows:

1. To analyze “*A Thousand Splendid Suns*” novel based on its Structural Elements, by finding character and characterization, point of view, plot, setting, style, and theme
2. To analyze “*A Thousand Splendid Suns*” novel based on the Sociological Approach, by identifying the relationship between the novel and the sociological background of late twentieth century and early twentieth first century in Afghanistan society.

F. Benefit of The Study

The benefits of the study are as follows:

1. Theoretical Benefit

To give some contributions to the body of knowledge, especially to the application of Sociological Approach in literary study.

2. Practical Benefit

To give benefit to the other researcher in understanding Khaled Hosseini’s *A Thousand Splendid Suns* Novel from Sociological approach.

G. Research Method

1. Type of the Study

The type of the study is the qualitative research in the form of literary work. The data sources are library, internet, and literary data. Its purpose is to analyze using sociological approach.

2. Object of the Study

The object of the study is Khaled Hosseini's *A Thousand Splendid Suns* novel.

3. Type of the Data and the Data source

There are two types of data, namely primary data and secondary data as follows:

a. Primary Data

The primary data are taken from the novel of *A Thousand Splendid Suns* by Khaled Hosseini's.

b. Secondary Data

The secondary data are taken from other sources which are related to the primary data includes books, other data that have relationship with the research, such as biography of author, commentaries, and other information like website about *A Thousand Splendid Suns*.

4. Technique of the Data Collection

The researcher will make of steps to collecting data it is:

- a. Reading the novel repeatedly to get deep understanding.
- b. Determining the character that will be analyzed.

- c. Reading some books to find the theory us and information.
- d. Taking notes and underline the important word, phrase or sentences which are related to the study.
- e. Classifying and determining the relevant data.
- f. Relating the data collected and the point of discussion.

5. Technique of the Data Analysis

The technique of data analysis of the research is descriptive analysis. In this research the researcher tries to describe the structural elements of the novel and sociological analysis. In this case is sociological approach to show the discrimination of women on Khaled Hosseini's A Thousand Splendid Suns novel: Sociological Approach.

H. Research Paper Organization

This research will be divided into six chapters. Chapter I is introduction which explains the background of the study, literature review, problem of the study, limitation of the study, objectives of the study, benefits of the study, research method of the study, and research paper organization. Chapter II is dealing with the underlying theory, it consists of sociology of literature, major principles of sociology, theory discrimination and women, structural elements of the novel, and theoretical application. Chapter III contains the social background of Afghanistan society in the late twentieth century and early twentieth first century. Chapter IV is structural analysis and discussion. Chapter V is sociological analysis of the novel. And Chapter VI contains of the conclusion, suggestion and pedagogical implication.